



4 July 1952

Memorandum for: The Director

Subject: Briefing for Congressman Laurie Battle.

1. Mr. Tannenwald, Acting Director of Mutual Security, called Legislative Counsel on 3 July to secure CIA assistance in the briefing of Congressman Laurie Battle, of Alabama. Congressman Battle is the author of the Battle Act, which permits the President, under certain circumstances, to continue assistance to countries which permit shipments of certain items under unusual circumstances to Iron Curtain countries. He has been a leading supporter of the Administration through his leadership in assuring the continuation of the President's authorities in this field.

2. Congressman Battle has informed DMS that in order to assure himself that his position continues to be a correct one, he wishes a thorough briefing on the manner in which decisions are made in the field of East-West trade. DMS has, therefore, invited Congressman Battle and Mr. Roy Bullock, of the staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, to sit in on certain meetings at the office of DMS and to look over certain material classified through SECRET.

3. Congressman Battle notes that many of the key decisions taken regarding East-West trade are based on "intelligence". He, therefore, has asked to be allowed to see some of this intelligence himself in order to get some idea as to how these decisions are reached. He is not interested in sensitive sources or methods, but merely would like to see some of the basic reports, and have some idea of how intelligence fits in. He had planned to call the DCI in this connection, but DMS requested that they be allowed to arrange such a meeting with appropriate CIA persons.

4. CONCLUSIONS:

a. Congressman Battle is a key figure in Mutual Security legislation, and in the Administration's ability to preserve legislation which will not make it mandatory to cut off aid in such situations as have just arisen in the case of the Danish tanker;

JUL 7 1952
100-100000-4

b. The Acting Director of Mutual Security considers it important and is extremely anxious to have CIA's help and cooperation in briefing Battle on the type of intelligence which goes into making U. S. decisions in the field of East-West trade. It is considered preferable that CIA make the presentation rather than DMS because of the psychological factor involved in allowing Congressman Battle to be briefed at CIA rather than receiving the intelligence material second hand.

5. RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that DD/I prepare a short briefing for Congressman Battle at CIA which will give the Congressman some insight into the intelligence factors which go into decisions on East-West trade, and that such briefing not include any material from sensitive sources.

Walter L. Pforzheimer
Legislative Counsel